ARKANSAS BROILER HATCHERY

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ARKANSAS CHICK PLACEMENTS UP 3 PERCENT FROM LAST YEAR

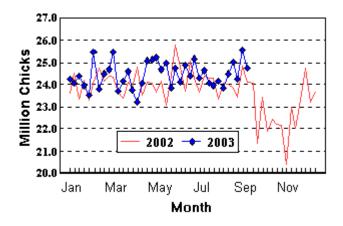
Broiler-type **chicks placed** for meat production in Arkansas was 24.7 million during the week ending September 20, 2003. Placements were up 3 percent from the comparable week in 2002, but down 3 percent from the revised previous week, and included 3.0 million chicks shipped in from other states. Cumulative placements from December 29, 2002 through September 20, 2003 were 929.0 million, up 1 percent from the same period a year earlier.

The broiler-type **chicks hatched** for the week was 24.8 million, up 1 percent from the corresponding week a year earlier, but down 3 percent from the revised previous week. Of the total hatch, 2.7 million chicks were shipped out of the state. Average hatchability for chicks hatched was 81.9 percent.

Arkansas hatcheries **set** 30.5 million broiler-type eggs during the week ending Septembert 20, 2003, up 5 percent from the same period last year, and up 4 percent from the previous week.

Leading breeders in the **UNITED STATES** placed 7.4 million **broiler-type pullet chicks** for future domestic hatchery supply flocks during August 2003, down 1 percent from August 2002.

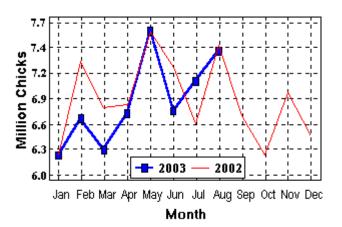
ARKANSAS BROILER CHICK PLACEMENTS BY WEEK, 2002 - 2003



NET PLACEMENTS IN ARKANSAS

Week	Ye	%						
Ending	2002	2002 2003						
	1,000							
Aug. 16	24,059	23,866	99					
Aug. 23	23,997	24,485	102					
Aug. 30	23,880	25,015	105					
Sep. 6	23,428	24,254	104					
Sep. 13	24,831	25,581	103					
Sep. 20	24,113	24,721	103					

U.S. BROILER-TYPE PULLET CHICKS PLACED FOR DOMESTIC HATCHERY SUPPLY FLOCKS



U.S. PULLET CHICKS PLACED

	Yea	%						
Month	2002	2003	Change					
	1,000							
Mar.	6,775	6,329	93					
Apr.	6,814	6,720	99					
May	7,597	7,612	100					
Jun.	7,206	6,748	94					
Jul.	6,602	7,071	107					
Aug.	7,449	7,401	99					

BROILER EGGS SET AND CHICKS PLACED IN 19 MAJOR STATES BY WEEKS, 2003

	EGGS SET (in Thousands)					CHICKS PLACED (in Thousands)						
	Week Ending			1/		Week Ending				1/		
STATE	30-Aug	06-Sep	13-Sep	20-Sep	%	16-Aug	23-Aug	30-Aug	06-Sep	13-Sep	20-Sep	%
Alabama	29,180 *	29,240	27,938	27,565	99	21,844	22,084	21,871	22,012	21,482	21,970	106
ARKANSAS	30,223	30,875	29,368	30,458	105	23,866	24,485	25,015	24,254	25,581 *	24,721	103
Delaware	3,837	3,792	3,561	3,327	108	5,024	4,741	5,302	5,213	5,784	4,644	83
Florida	1,353	1,357	1,329	1,345	61	1,654	1,727	1,722	1,831	2,056	1,691	76
Georgia	32,608 *		31,287	30,901	103	26,217	25,331 *		25,074	25,937	25,471	100
Kentucky	6,944 *		5,625	6,551	115	6,107	6,072	5,810	5,848	5,850	5,857	106
Maryland	9,293	8,869	8,371	8,118	93	6,344	6,508	5,718	5,28 7	5,293	6,614	115
Mississippi	18,327	18,686	18,024	17,534	99	16,292	16,415	16,247	16,396	16,168	15,5 77	102
N. Carolina	16,644 *	16,305	16,229	15,632	98	14,072	14,217	13,924	14,098	13,977	13,226	93
Oktahoma	6,349	6,338	6,553 *	6,356	106	5,401	4,325	4,297	4,346	4,406	4,273	92
Pennsylvania	3,568	3,658 *	3,517	3,454	103	2,824	2,729	2,741	2,741 *	2,817	2,677	96
S. Carolina	4,635	4,681	4,551	4,482	93	4,145	4,213	4,009	4,203	4,178	4,583	112
Texas	14,508	14,647	14,002	13,021	98	12,222	11,961	11,959	11,891	12,079	12,164	109
Virginia	6,333	6,024	6,108	6,072	122	5,108	5,190	5,071	5,927	5,450	4,979	101
CA,LA,MO,TN,WV	_19 <u>,61</u> 7	18,662	19,580 *	<u>19,917</u>	117_	17,944	18,602	<u> 18,727</u>	18 <u>,327</u> _	18 <u>,180</u> *	<u>17,125</u>	<u>91</u>
Total 2003	203,419 *	200,405 *	196,043 *	194,733		169,064	168,600 *	168,575	167,448 *	169,238 *	165,572	
Total 2002	204,042	203,517	<u>191,797</u>	189,744		168,271	<u>168,773</u>	<u>166,470</u>	1 <u>67,094</u>	166,340	<u>165,465</u>	
%Prev. Year	100	98	102	103		100	100	101	100	102	100	
Approximate Marketing Date 2003												

^{*} Revised. If Current week as percent of the same week last year.

EGGS SET IN 19 SELECTED STATES UP 3 PERCENT

Commercial hatcheries in the 19-state weekly program set 195 million eggs during the week ending September 20, 2003. This was up 3 percent from the eggs set the corresponding week a year earlier. Average hatchability for chicks hatched during the week was 83 percent. Average hatchability is calculated by dividing chicks hatched during the week by eggs set three weeks earlier.

BROILER CHICKS PLACED UP SLIGHTLY

Broiler growers in the 19-state weekly program placed 166 million chicks for meat production during the week ending September 20, 2003. Placements were up slightly from the comparable week a year earlier. Cumulative placements from December 29, 2002 through September 20, 2003 were 6.39 billion, down 1 percent from the same period a year earlier.